

**DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION**☒ Original☐ Supplemental☐ Substitute☐ PCT

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**HIERARCHICAL RECOVERY METHOD FOR FIBRE-CHANNEL DEVICES**

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which (check one)

☒ is attached hereto☐ was filed as U. S. Application Serial Number or PCT

International Application Number \_\_\_\_\_

and was amended \_\_\_\_\_

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 (a) - (d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified, by checking the box below, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Applications			Priority Claimed		Copy Attached	
Application Number	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	YES	NO	YES	NO

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below and claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Inventors: Michael W. Bezera, Eric R. Vook, Michael Burriss, Helga Sonner and Derek Scott  
 For: Hierarchical Recovery Method for Fibre-Channel Devices  
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Parent Application Number	Filing Date	Status (Mark Appropriate Column Below)		
		Patented	Pending	Abandoned

As a named inventor, I hereby revoke all prior powers and appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

FIRM NAME: KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP, 3737 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 400, Raleigh, North Carolina 27612

Attorney and/or Agent	Registration No.
Charles Y. Lackey	22,707
John M. Harrington	25,592
John M. Gunther	26,175
Robert L. Dulaney	28,071
John S. Pratt	29,476
William R. Clark	29,523
A. José Cortina	29,733
Penelope S. Wilson	29,751
James L. Ewing, IV	30,630
Charles W. Calkins	31,814
George T. Marcou	33,014
Dean W. Russell	33,452
Richard T. Peterson	35,320
Charles T. Simmons	35,359
Nora M. Tocups	35,717
Bruce D. Gray	35,799
Theodore R. Harper	35,890
Christopher K. Gagne	36,142
Geoff L. Sutcliffe	36,348
Robert Kevin Perkins	36,634

Attorney and/or Agent	Registration No.
Pat Winston Kennedy	36,970
James E. Ruland	37,432
Krishnendu Gupta	37,977
Mitchell G. Stockwell	39,389
Leanne J. Fitzgerald	40,606
Michael J. Turton	40,852
Yoncha L. Kundupoglu	41,130
Alana G. Kriegsman	41,747
J. Steven Gardner	41,772
Edwina Thomas Washington	43,187
Camilla Camp Williams	43,992
Carl B. Massey	44,224
John William Ball, Jr.	44,433
Dawn-Marie Bey	44,442
Tiep Nguyen	44,465
Kristin L. Johnson	44,807
J. Jason Link	44,874
Janina Malone	47,768
Laura M. Kelley	P48,441
Michael A. Bush	P48,893

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I acknowledge the above-listed attorneys and agents and their firm Kilpatrick Stockton LLP represent my employer (if I am an employee and this application has been or will be assigned to my employer) or the entity with which I have contracted (if I am an independent contractor and this application has been or will be assigned to such entity) and in such cases do not represent me individually. I further acknowledge I have not established, nor will I seek to establish, any personal attorney/client relationship with Kilpatrick Stockton LLP in connection with this application and understand that, should I require legal representation, I will obtain such, at my expense, other than through Kilpatrick Stockton LLP.

Send Correspondence to: A. José Cortina, Esquire  
Kilpatrick Stockton LLP  
3737 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 400  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27612

Direct telephone calls to: A. José Cortina (919) 420-1820

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

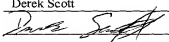
First name of first inventor Michael W. Bezera  
Inventor's signature Michael W. Bezera Date: 15-June-2001  
Residence 3904 East Valley Court, Raleigh, North Carolina 27606  
Citizenship USA  
Post Office Address 3904 East Valley Court, Raleigh, North Carolina 27606

First name of second inventor Eric R. Vook  
Inventor's signature Eric R. Vook Date: 6-15-2001  
Residence 200 Wenonah Way, Durham, North Carolina 27713  
Citizenship USA  
Post Office Address 200 Wenonah Way, Durham, North Carolina 27713

First name of third inventor Michael Burriss  
Inventor's signature Michael Burriss Date: 6/15/2001  
Residence 4600 Pemberton Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609  
Citizenship USA  
Post Office Address 4600 Pemberton Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

First name of fourth inventor Helga Sonner  
Inventor's signature Helga Sonner Date: 6/15/2001  
Residence 5118-102 Copper Ridge Drive, Durham, North Carolina 27707  
Citizenship USA  
Post Office Address 5118-102 Copper Ridge Drive, Durham, North Carolina 27707

Inventors: Michael W. Bezera, Eric R. Vook, Michael Burriss, Helga Sonner and Derek Scott  
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First name of fifth inventor	Derek Scott
Inventor's signature	<u></u> Date: <u>6/15/2001</u>
Residence	5121-108 Copper Ridge Drive, Durham, North Carolina 27707
Citizenship	USA
Post Office Address	5121 -108 Copper Ridge Drive, Durham, North Carolina 27707

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